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INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Economic - Fishing

HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical

WHERE PUBLISHED Moscow

DATE PUBLISHED Sep 1949

LANGUAGE Russian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 3 Jan 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Rybnoye Khozyaystvo, Vol XXV No 9, 1949.CURRENT PROBLEMS IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

FAILURE TO COMPLETE PLANS

The USSR fishing industry did not fulfill its plan for the first half of 1949. The first-quarter 1949 plan was met by only 97 percent and the second-quarter plan by 85 percent. An analysis of existing conditions shows that both plans should have been fulfilled and even exceeded. The abundance of raw material resources and experience in catching fish do not limit or hinder plan fulfillment. The reason for failure lies in the unsatisfactory organization of labor for fish catching and especially for the processing of raw material, and the lack of skill in using existing means of production.

During the first half of 1949, funds for fishing industry enterprises increased over the same period in 1948 by 16 percent, equipment by 17 percent, and the commercial fleet by 20 percent. The supply of net cordage was sufficient to equip fully all enterprises and fishing kolkhozes, to guarantee repair of worn out stock, and to produce new fishing equipment. At present, the number of machines being installed in fishing enterprises is increasing regularly, and experienced technical engineers are appearing in fishing enterprises.

The existing poor organization of labor is exemplified by the trawling fleet. The fleet increased by 18 percent during the second quarter of 1949 over the second quarter of 1948. The time spent on unloading fish, however, increased from 2.8 days in 1948 to 3.1 days in 1949, so that trawling workers were not able to utilize fully the additional trawling vessels provided. A further loss of time resulted during this period from the fact that trawlers spent increasingly more time each month going from one area to another trying to find the changed location of cod resources.

Fish-processing enterprises during the second quarter of 1949 did considerably worse work than fish-catching enterprises. The result was that the net production plan for processing had a lower completion percentage than the plan for fish catching. In a number of cases there was unsatisfactory organization of both processing and catching. One example of this is the catching of herring in South Sakhalin. Migrations of spawning herring were large this year, so it should have been possible to fulfill and exceed the second-quarter plan. Poor

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organization of shore work, however, did not allow the excellent possibilities to be realized. Herring catching was slowed up due to insufficient transportation facilities for moving fish to processing enterprises, while processing was delayed by the prevailing unsatisfactory condition of machinery in the South Sakhalin enterprises.

A sufficient supply of tare is also of great importance for plan completion. Although enterprises of the Main Administration of western Fishing for Tare exceeded the plan for net production for the second quarter, the assortment of produce did not always correspond to the needs of production. Preservative tare, needed for storing herring and kilka, was not supplied in sufficient quantities.

The section of the plan dealing with cooked, marinated, and smoked fish and cured sturgeon backs was left uncompleted. In addition to this, the quantity and quality of products in 1949 were lower in comparison to 1948 products.

During the last half of 1949, workers of the fishing industry are obliged to improve labor organization and to raise production not only to fulfill the plan for production, but also to compensate for the fish not supplied during the first half of 1949. The fishing enterprises of Kamchatka, Crimea, and the trawling fleet should especially strive to complete their plans.

REORGANIZATION OF FISHING FLEET SCHOOLS

N. N. Nidzharadze

The basic training schools for the fishing fleet which graduate 200 ship's masters every class have proved their worth. Now, with the modernization of the fishing fleet, however, they must be reorganized.

The schools carry on their school work according to the program approved by the Ministry of Fish Industry USSR. A simple comparison of this program to the program approved by the Ministry of Fish Industry USSR for state qualifications of commissioners for fish ports shows that a discrepancy exists between the subjects offered (the technique of fish catching, sea practice, navigation and piloting, meteorology, and oceanography) and the subjects needed to qualify for the positions. This must be speedily remedied.

In this connection, the question of a general change of the school program and the need to examine the basic program is necessary. The TsK VKP(b) is to have the final word in the new school programs in relation to questions of ideology. Experience has shown that a fleet composed of both sailing and motorized vessels is necessary for the schools and must be included in the new programs.

The basic training schools are necessary for training fishing fleet personnel and should be quickly authorized to expand. At present, two such schools are located in the Azov-Black Sea basins.

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